

REMARKS

This is a full and timely response to the outstanding final Office Action mailed January 16, 2004. Reconsideration and allowance of the application and pending claims are respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

A. Statement of the Rejection

Claims 1-33 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Masunaga ("Masunaga," U.S. Pat. No. 5,751,445). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

B. The Masunaga Reference

In stark contrast to Applicant's claimed inventions, the Masunaga disclosure relates to television conferencing (also known as video conferencing) systems. Masunaga, column 1, lines 15-36. As is described by Masunaga, one problem with known video conferencing systems is that, if you would like to print an image of a conference participant, the quality of that image may be low given the high compression used to transmit the video data. Id. It is one object of Masunaga's invention to solve that problem. Id. at column 1, lines 39-41.

One disclosed system is described in relation to Figure 1. In that system, a first terminal device 50 and a second terminal device 52 are provided, the first including image transmission circuit blocks and the second including image receiving circuit blocks. Id. at column 2, lines 16-24. The first terminal device includes a camera 60 for capturing video data, a moving image coding circuit 62 for compressing and coding that

video data, and a still image coding circuit 68 for compressing and coding image data in a manner in which image quality is the top priority. Id. at column 2, lines 25-46.

The described system further includes a switch 66 that is used to select an output from the camera. Id. That switch is controlled by commands from the second terminal device so that a user at that device can control what image data (i.e., high or low quality) is used to generate a hard copy printout. Id.

Applicant notes that Masunaga discloses *nothing* about a system or method for facilitating display of graphical data in a device control panel, such as a control panel of a printing device.

C. Discussion of the Rejection

It is axiomatic that “[a]nticipation requires the disclosure in a single prior art reference of *each element* of the claim under consideration.” W. L. Gore & Associates, Inc. v. Garlock, Inc., 721 F.2d 1540, 1554, 220 U.S.P.Q. 303, 313 (Fed. Cir. 1983)(emphasis added). Therefore, every claimed feature of the claimed invention must be represented in the applied reference to constitute a proper rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b).

In the present case, the Office Action states that the Examiner “interprets” Masunaga to disclose each and every limitation of Applicant’s 33 claims. Applicant respectfully asserts that that interpretation is unwarranted given that Masunaga fails to disclose anything remotely similar to a system or a method that facilitates display of graphical data in a device control panel, such as a control panel of a printing device. Applicant discusses the claims in the following.

1. Claims 1-8 and 22-24

Applicant's independent claim 1 provides as follows (emphasis added):

1. A method for facilitating display of a graphic on an electrical device, comprising:

receiving from a user a selection of graphical data representing a graphic to be transmitted to the electrical device; and

facilitating transmission of the graphical data representing the graphic to the electrical device such that the electrical device can display the graphic in a device control panel.

As described above, Masunaga discloses a video conferencing system in which image data captured at one location is transmitted from a first terminal device and is received by a second terminal device. That image data may be displayed on one or both of two monitors 80, 84 of the second terminal device. Irrespective of this, Masunaga says nothing about facilitating transmission of the graphical data representing the graphic to the electrical device "such that the electrical device can display the graphic in a device control panel" as is required by independent claim 1. More specifically, Masunaga does not indicate that any such data is displayed in a control panel display.

The distinction between Masunaga's "monitor" and Applicant's display of a "control panel" is significant. As is well known by persons having ordinary skill in the art to which Applicant's inventions pertain, control panel displays are those relatively small, low-resolution displays provided within device control panels, often adjacent various control buttons used to control operation of the devices. In many

cases such displays are liquid crystal displays (LCDs), as contrasted with video monitors (such as those used by Masunaga). Such a definition is consistent with Applicant's specification in which an example control panel display is described. Applicant states that such a control panel display may comprise "a liquid crystal display (LCD) having a resolution of approximately 164 pixels by 64 pixels." Specification, page 6, lines 9-10. Such a display can be provided in the control panel of office-type equipment device such as a printer, photocopier, facsimile machine, multifunction peripheral (MFP), or network appliance. Id. at page 4, lines 7-11.

argued
not
claimed

Clearly, Masunaga's "monitors" do not qualify as control panel displays. For one thing, those monitors are not described as comprising part of a control panel of an electrical device. Although little detail is provided by Masunaga, given the typical configuration of video conferencing systems, those monitors most likely comprise television sets (note also that Masunaga describes a "TV conference system" in column 1, lines 15-36). Moreover, if Masunaga used such a control panel display of an electrical device to display video data collected by a remote terminal device, the picture quality would be exceeding poor. Imagine captured video being presented on a display having a resolution of approximately 164 by 64 pixels. Clearly, video conference participants would not be pleased with such a picture.

In summary, Applicant submits that the Examiner's "interpretation" of Masunaga's system is so liberal as to comprise an improper Section 102 rejection as to independent claim 1. Specifically, Masunaga clearly does not anticipate each and every of Applicant's claim limitations.

Masunaga also fails to anticipate various limitations contained in claims that depend from claim 1. For example, with regard to dependent claim 2, Masunaga does not anticipate "receiving an indication of a location of the graphical data" so as to, for

example, facilitate retrieval of that data from the location. Furthermore, Masunaga does not anticipate the graphical data being "located at a remote location that is accessible via a network" as is required by claim 3.

Regarding claim 4, Masunaga is silent as to "transmitting the graphical data along with a job to be performed by the electrical device." Simply put, Masunaga identifies no such "jobs."

no
description
of jobs in
claim

Turning to claim 5, Masunaga fails to disclose "GIF89a" format or "animation". Again, 35 U.S.C. § 102 requires that the applied reference explicitly, or at least implicitly, disclose the limitations of a claim.

bears
similar
results

Regarding claim 6, Masunaga fails to disclose "receiving an indication of when the graphic is to be displayed" as is required by that claim. Indeed, Masunaga is silent as to the timing of display of any image data.

With respect to claims 7 and 8, Masunaga fails to disclose "receiving an indication of an electrical device state during which the graphic is to be displayed" or that the state comprises at least one of "an initialization state, a ready state, an operating state, and a power save state." Masunaga says nothing about electrical device states. This is, of course, understandable given that Masunaga pertains to video conferencing.

With reference to claim 22, Masunaga also fails to disclose that the "facilitating transmission" recited in claim 1 comprises "facilitating transmission of the graphical data to a printing device." Again, the "facilitating transmission" limitation of claim 1 recites, in whole, "facilitating transmission of the graphical data representing the graphic to the electrical device *such that the electrical device can display the graphic in a device control panel*" (emphasis added). Although Masunaga teaches sending print data to a printer for printing, Masunaga says nothing about

sending graphical data to an electrical device for display in a control panel display or that the device comprises a “printing device”.

Regarding claim 23, Masunaga does not disclose “facilitating transmission of the graphical data to a printer” (see discussion of claim 22).

Finally, regarding claim 24, Masunaga does not disclose “transmitting the graphical data along with a print job for the electrical device.” As noted above, Masunaga says nothing about sending graphical data along with any “job.” Moreover, it is clear that Masunaga says nothing about sending that data along with a “print job”.

In view of the above, it is clear that Masunaga is woefully deficient as a Section 102 reference against Applicant’s claims. Applicant therefore requests that the rejections be withdrawn.

2. Claims 9-13 and 25-27

Applicant’s independent claim 9 provides as follows (emphasis added):

9. A system for facilitating display of a graphic on an electrical device, comprising:

means for receiving from a user a selection of graphical data representing a graphic to be transmitted to the electrical device; and

means for facilitating transmission of the graphical data representing the graphic to the electrical device such that the electrical device can display the graphic in a device control panel.

Regarding independent claim 9, Masunaga fails to disclose “means for facilitating transmission of the graphical data representing the graphic to the electrical

device such that the electrical device can display the graphic in a device control panel” for at least the same reasons discussed above in relation to independent claim 1.

Applicant further notes that dependent claims 10, 11, 12, and 13 are each allowable over Masunaga at least for the reasons described above in relation to claims 4, 5, and 7.

Regarding claims 25-27, Applicant refers the Examiner to the discussion of claims 22-24.

3. Claims 14-18 and 28-30

Applicant’s independent claim 14 provides as follows (emphasis added):

14. A method for facilitating display of a graphic on an electrical device, comprising:

receiving graphical data that has been selected by a user from a computing device;

receiving an indication as to how a graphic represented by the selected graphical data is to be displayed; and

displaying the graphic in a device control panel according to the received indication.

Regarding independent claim 14, Masunaga fails to disclose “displaying the graphic in a device control panel according to the received indication” as is required by that claim. Applicant directs the Examiner’s attention to the discussion provided above with respect to independent claim 1. In short, Masunaga fails to disclose a “device control panel” as well as displaying a graphic in that control panel “according to the received indication.”

Applicant further notes that dependent claims 15, 16, and 17 are each allowable over Masunaga at least for the reasons described above in relation to claims 4, 7, and 8, respectively.

Regarding claim 9, although the Masunaga system displays video, Masunaga does not disclose displaying any “animation” as is required by claim 9.

Regarding claims 28-30, Applicant refers the Examiner to the discussion of claims 22-24.

4. Claims 19-21 and 31-33

Applicant’s independent claim 19 provides as follows (emphasis added):

19. A system for facilitating display of a graphic on an electrical device, comprising:

means for receiving graphical data that has been selected by the user from a computing device;

means for receiving an indication as to how a graphic represented by the selected data is to be displayed; and

means for displaying the graphic in a device control panel according to the received indication.

As for independent claim 19, Masunaga fails to disclose “means for displaying the graphic in a device control panel according to the received indication”. Applicant refers the Examiner to the discussion of claim 1 provided above.

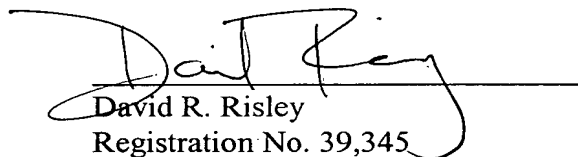
Applicant further notes that Masunaga further fails to anticipate dependent claims 20 and 21 for at least the reasons discussed above in relation to claims 4 and 7, respectively.

Regarding claims 31-33, Applicant refers the Examiner to the discussion of claims 22-24.

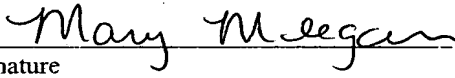
CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that Applicant's pending claims are in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application and all pending claims are hereby courteously requested. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephonic conference would expedite the examination of this matter, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (770) 933-9500.

Respectfully submitted,


David R. Risley
Registration No. 39,345

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, on

3-9-04

Signature